

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**RECEIVED**  
**CENTRAL FAX CENTER**

**JAN 03 2007**

| APPLICATION NO.   | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. |
|---|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| 09/496,549  | 02/02/2000  | G. King              | 1996 P 7813 US 05   |
| Via FAX to 571-272-8300<br>Mail Stop (none)<br>Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks<br>P.O. Box 1450<br>Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 |             |                      | EXAMINER            |
|   |             |                      | Qureshi, Afser M.   |
|   |             |                      | ART UNIT            |
|   |             |                      | 2616                |

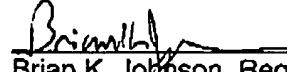
**Pre-Appeal Brief Request for Review**

The applicant requests review of the rejection mailed November 3, 2006. No amendments are being filed with this request. A notice of appeal accompanies this request.

This is a second request for review. Although the panel decision mailed October 24, 2006 reopened prosecution in response to the earlier request for review, the subsequent November 3, 2006 action does not address the applicant's contention that the primary reference, U.S. Patent No. 5,668,857 (McHale), does not meet the specific limitations of the claims. Specifically, as pointed out in the remarks on page 6 of the response filed June 27, 2006, the reference does not disclose, teach, or suggest the specific structures recited in independent claims 32, 38, and 41 ("a digital line unit, a remote line termination unit, a remote data terminal, a subscriber line interface circuit, or a digital subscriber line module"). Similarly, the newly-cited secondary reference, U.S. Patent No. 6,327,258 (Deschaine et al.) (applied to claims 41-47 in ¶ 4 of the office action), does not disclose, teach, or suggest those limitations.

Therefore, obviousness has not been established. Reconsideration is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

  
 Brian K. Johnson, Reg. No. 46,808  
 Attorney for Applicant(s)  
 phone +1-732-321-3017  
 fax +1-732-590-6411  
 email brian.johnson@siemens.com

PLEASE DIRECT ALL WRITTEN  
CORRESPONDENCE TO:  
Siemens Networks, Inc.  
170 Wood Avenue South  
Iselin, NJ 08830